

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Image processing apparatus comprising:
an image processing unit for performing predetermined image processing upon first image data so as to obtain second image data;
an image storage unit for storing said second image data; and
an image combining unit for combining a plurality of image data; ~~wherein:~~
data,
wherein:
when third image data is present on which said predetermined image processing will be ~~performed~~ includes performed, said third image data being image data having identity with said first image data and including a portion different from said first image data, said image processing unit performs said predetermined image processing upon said different portion between said third image data and said first image data so as to generate fourth image data; and
said image combining unit combines, of said second image data stored in said image storage unit, a portion corresponding to said third image data other than said different portion with said fourth image data.

2. (Original) Image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein:
when one of said first image data and said third image data can be subjected to processing, said image processing unit performs a color correction process and/or a RIP process upon said image data that can be subjected to processing.

3. (Original) Image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein:

when one of said first image data and said third image data is drawing data described in a drawing language, said image processing unit further performs an unfolding process upon said drawing data so as to unfold said drawing data and thereby obtain one of said second image data and said fourth image data.

4. (Original) Image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

an accounting unit for performing an accounting process for at least said image processing upon said different portion.

5. (Original) Image processing apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein:
said different portion is measured by page, and said accounting unit calculates a fee to be charged in said accounting process based on the number of pages of said different portion.

6. (Original) Image processing apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein:
said accounting unit calculates a fee to be charged in said accounting process based on an area of said different portion.

7. (Original) Image processing apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein:
said image processing uses processing data, and said accounting unit does accounting for said processing data used in said image processing.

8. (Original) Image processing apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein:
when said image processing is performed upon said different portion a plurality of times, said accounting unit performs said accounting process for all or a part of second-time and subsequent ones of said image processing.

9. (Original) Image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein:
said image processing unit compares said first image data with said third image data so as to detect said different portion.

10. (Original) Image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein:
when said image processing is performed upon said first image data and said third image data by page, said image processing unit detects, as said different portion, pages including a difference between said first image data and said third image data.
11. (Original) Image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein:
when said image processing is performed upon said first image data and said third image data by sheet of paper, said image processing unit detects, as said different portion, sheets of paper including a difference between said first image data and said third image data.
12. (Original) Image processing apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein:
when said difference in one page results in a difference in all of subsequent pages, said image processing unit detects, as said different portion, all of said page including said difference and said subsequent pages.
13. (Original) Image processing apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein:
when said difference in one sheet of paper results in a difference in all of subsequent sheets of paper, said image processing unit detects, as said different portion, all of said sheet of paper including said difference and said subsequent sheets of paper.
14. (Currently Amended) An image processing method comprising:
performing predetermined image processing upon first image data so as to obtain second image data;
storing said second image data; and
combining a plurality of image data; ~~wherein: data,~~
wherein:
when third image data is present on which said predetermined image processing will be ~~performed~~ includes performed, said third image data being image data

having identity with said first image data and including a portion different from said first image data, said predetermined image processing is performed upon said different portion between said third image data and said first image data so as to generate fourth image data; and

of said stored second image data, a portion corresponding to said third image data other than said different portion is combined with said fourth image data.

15. (Original) An image processing method according to Claim 14, wherein:
when one of said first image data and said third image data can be subjected to processing, a color correction process and/or a RIP process are performed upon said image data that can be subjected to processing.

16. (Original) An image processing method according to Claim 14, wherein:
when one of said first image data and said third image data is drawing data described in a drawing language, an unfolding process upon said drawing data is further performed to unfold said drawing data and thereby obtain one of said second image data and said fourth image data.

17. (Original) An image processing method according to Claim 14, further comprising:
performing an accounting process for at least said image processing upon said different portion.

18. (Original) An image processing method according to Claim 14, wherein:
when said image processing is performed upon said first image data and said third image data by page, said image processing unit detects, as said different portion, pages including a difference between said first image data and said third image data.

19. (Original) An image processing method according to Claim 14, wherein:

when said image processing is performed upon said first image data and said third image data by sheet of paper, said image processing unit detects, as said different portion, sheets of paper including a difference between said first image data and said third image data.